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TO : Department of State

 INFO : DHAHRAN CHUSMTM COMIDEASTFOR
 USMTM AIR FORCE SECTION ANALYSISUSMTM REVISION
 BRANCH

DEPT PASS TO: See list on page 5. (18 copies)

FROM : Amembassy JIDDA

DATE: December 1, 1964

SUBJECT: Joint Weeka No. 47 (for the week ending November 29)

REF :

Table of ContentsPOLITICAL/ECONOMIC

2. United Nations Problems: Israel-Syria;

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Congo Rescue Operations
2. Palestine.
3. Anniversary of Kennedy Assassination.

5
5
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Drafted by:

B/rampelmeier/Maj.Scott:lc 12/1/64

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Contents and Classification Approved by:

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Page Two of
A-146, Jidda

DECLASSIFIED

POLITICAL/ECONOMIC

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
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22
23
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2. United Nations Problems.

a. Saqqaf Expresses Concern over Syrian-Israeli Item before Security Council. In a conversation with the Charge November 26 Deputy Foreign Minister Omar SAQQAF expressed his concern over the current Syrian-Israeli dispute before the Security Council and said he deeply hoped that the US would support the Syrian position and condemn Israel. The Charge reminded Saqqaf that the general posture of the US was to support fully the existing UNTSO machinery and give great weight to UNTSO reports about the actual nature of the incidents. He also mentioned the past US record of evenhandedness in supporting disapproving resolutions directed at either party where the evidence justified it. Saqqaf expressed understanding for the US position but nevertheless has pressed for an answer to his representations to the Charge. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Congo Rescue Operations. The Saudi press reaction to the Belgian-US rescue operation of civilians trapped in Stanleyville has been adverse but confined to the issues published November 25-27. While excerpts of President JOHNSON's statement on the operations and Associated Press material giving the US viewpoint have been published, the headlines and the few editorials that have appeared have been hostile. The operation was billed in most papers as a new imperialist invasion of the Congo. Al-Madina, the only paper to carry commentary on the subject, suggested that the Stanleyville operation, which was carried out with Moise TSHOMBE's knowledge and approval, should "open the eyes" of those African elements who favored a more polite treatment for Tshombe at the Cairo Non-Aligned Conference. At the same time the al-Madina commentator praised France for her hands-off attitude toward the Congo rescue operation. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: The local reaction to the Congo rescue operation, surprisingly sharp for Saudi Arabia, has tended to ignore or to minimize the justification of the operation on humanitarian grounds. There has been no official reaction from the Saudi Government. ~~and there has been no further press commentary on the subject since November 27.~~ (UNCLASSIFIED)

2. Palestine. On the occasion of the 17th anniversary of the adoption of the UN resolution for the partition of Palestine, most Saudi papers carried articles and editorials on the Palestine Problem.

Several editorials and cartoons denouncing the Ecumenical Council's decision re the guilt of Jews for Christ's crucifixion appeared. Adeeb Naser, in al-Madina, called for a reform movement within the Roman Catholic Church to extirpate the "deviation and outside domination" of the Church that made such a decision possible. One paper gave headline billing to a report from Amman that the Jordanian Government will blacklist all those bishops who voted for the decision.

"Rasid," al-Madina's pseudonymous political commentator, petulantly asked why the US must so frequently remind the Arabs of its support for Israel. "Rasid" complained that although the Arabs have continually tried to give the US every opportunity to prove its good intentions toward them, every time the US insists "on blowing up all bridges between her and the Arab world." (UNCLASSIFIED)

3. Anniversary of Kennedy Assassination. One or two papers marked the occasion of the first anniversary of President KENNEDY's assassination with pictures of the late President and articles on his family, mostly translations of wire service material.

A showing at the Embassy of the USIS film "Years of Lightning, Day of Drums" on November 29 attracted an audience of about 350 persons from the diplomatic corps and the Jidda business and intellectual community. (UNCLASSIFIED)

For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.:

Richard W. Murphy
Second Secretary of Embassy.

DEPT PASS: ADEN, AMMAN, ANKARA, BAGHDAD, BEIRUT, ~~DETROIT~~ FOR MELB, BONN FOR CINCUSAFE, CAIRO, DAMASCUS, FRANKFURT FOR LINDSEY AIR STATION, ATTN: DSC INTELLIGENCE IDCA, HEADQUARTERS, USAREUR HEIDELBERG, KARACHI, KHARTOUM, KUWAIT, LONDON FOR CINCNELM, RABAT, TAIZ, TEHRAN, POLAD CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA.

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